Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods
and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification
and Labelling of Chemicals

Sub-Committee of Experts on the Globally Harmonized
System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals

Nineteenth session
Geneva, 30 June–2 July 2010
Item 4 (c) of the provisional agenda
Implementation of the GHS:
Reports on the status of implementation

Implementation of the GHS in the Republic of Korea

Transmitted by the expert from the Republic of Korea
Republic of Korea

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<th>Focal points:</th>
<th>Ministry of Labor (MOL)</th>
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<td>Occupational Safety and Health Agency (KOSHA)</td>
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<td>Korean Agency for Technology and Standards (KATS)</td>
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<td>Ministry of Environment (MOE)</td>
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| Main relevant legislation: | Industrial Safety and Health Act (ISHA); |
|                          | Toxic Chemicals Control Act (TCCA); |
|                          | Dangerous Goods Safety Management Act (DGSMA); |
|                          | Standard KSM 1069:2006 (Labelling of Chemicals based on GHS) |

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<th>GHS implementation status:</th>
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**Transport of dangerous goods**

 implement for national transport: Dangerous Goods Safety Management Act (DGSMA), which addresses classification and labelling of dangerous goods, and is based on the 15th revised edition of the UN Model Regulations.

For international transport of dangerous goods, see Implementation through international legal instruments, recommendations, codes and guidelines.

**Other sectors:**

**Workplace**

Implement for Industrial Safety and Health Act (ISHA), revised in accordance with the GHS in Dec. 2006 (Notice No.2006-36) revised on Oct. 2009 (Notice No.2009-68) (classification and labelling and GHS-SDS).

Toxic Chemicals Control Act (TCCA), revised in accordance with the GHS in July 2008 (Classification and labelling for toxic chemicals).

Standard KSM 1069:2006 (Labelling of Chemicals based on GHS)

**Transitional periods:**

Deadline for classification of chemicals under the ISHA: 30 June 2010 for substances and 30 June 2013 for mixtures; (classification and labelling and GHS-SDS). During the transitional period, users may choose to use the revised ISHA (Notice 2009-68), which is based on the GHS, or continue using the previous...
notice (ISHA, Notice No. 1997-27).

The following GHS hazard categories are not adopted:

- Flammable liquids: Category 4;
- Acute toxicity: Category 5;
- Skin Corrosion/Irritation: Sub-categories 1A, 1B, 1C and Category 3 (i.e.: only Categories 1 and 2 are adopted);
- Serious eye damage/eye irritation: Sub-category 2B (only Category 1 and sub-category 2A are adopted);
- Aquatic toxicity: Acute 2 and 3:

Deadline for classification of existing chemicals according to the revised TCCA: 30 June 2011 for substances and 30 June 2013 for mixtures. Classification and labelling of new substances under the revised TCCA is mandatory since 1 July 2008.

Additional information

2003-2004: Research projects to analyse the impact of GHS implementation;
Creation of an inter-ministerial Committee to coordinate the process of harmonization of existing legislation with the GHS;

Amendment of the Industrial Safety and Health Act;
Revision of public notice of the Ministry of Labor on "Standards for classification and labelling of chemical substances and Material Safety Data Sheets";
Publication of Standard KSM 1069:2006 (Labelling of Chemicals based on GHS);

2007: Launching of a GHS classification and labelling project for 2500 chemicals;
Publication of the first revised edition of the GHS in Korean;
Revision of the Toxic Chemical Control Act in accordance with the GHS;
At the 8th session of the Tripartite Environmental Ministers Meeting (TEMM) held in Beijing, the ministers of the environment of China, Japan and Korea agreed on the establishment of a Tripartite Policy Dialogue on Chemicals Management, which includes holding regular meetings of a working group of experts on the GHS;
First meeting of the Tripartite Policy Dialogue (Tokyo);

2008: Revision of public notice (Notice No. 2008-01) of the Ministry of Labor on
“Standards for classification and labelling of chemical substances and Material Safety Data Sheets” in accordance with the second revised edition of the GHS;
Extension of the transitional period for reclassification of substances (until 30 June 2010) and mixtures (until 30 June 2013) under the ISHA (Notice No. 2008-29) for classification and labelling and GHS-SDS;
Release of a list of 3410 substances classified and labelled according to the GHS (for information only; classification not mandatory) at www.kosha.or.kr (free access);
Editing tools for creating SDS according to the GHS (Korean only) and labels (English and Korean) available at www.kosha.net (for members only);
Launching of a GHS classification and labelling project for mixtures;
Second meeting of the Tripartite Policy Dialogue (Seoul);
Amendment of the Dangerous Goods Safety Management Act in accordance with the GHS;

2009:
Release of the classification and labelling results and SDS (according to the GHS) for 11377 substances (for information only; classification not mandatory) at www.kosha.or.kr (free access);
Provision of a SDS editing program for mixtures;
Provision of a GHS classification and labelling program for substances and mixtures;
Capacity building activities: Intensive course on classification and labelling and preparation of SDS;

2010: (expected activities and outcomes)
Launching full implementation of GHS in the field of OSH for substances starting from 1 July 2010;
Expected release of the classification and labelling results and SDS (according to the GHS) for 13,200 substances (for information only; classification not mandatory) at www.kosha.or.kr (free access);
Provision of a SDS editing program for mixtures;
Provision of a GHS classification and labelling program for substances and mixtures;
Assessment of GHS implementation status in workplaces (handling of substances) (MOL and KOSHA);